



November 2009

Welcome to R4D's monthly e-newsletter
Bringing you information about DFID-funded research

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World AIDS Day – 1 December, 2009

The HIV/AIDS epidemic remains a huge threat to global health and prosperity. Halting the spread of the disease in developing countries, and providing life-saving care to the millions in those countries living with HIV and AIDS, is one of DFID's fundamental goals. Without decisive and sustained action against the disease in the developing world, the scale of the human tragedy will increase, and economic and social progress will be held back.

DFID is supporting research in key strategic areas to prevent infection, challenge social stigmas, understand relationships with TB and other diseases, and treat people with AIDS more effectively. Visit some of our research projects, and see how they are pushing back the frontiers of knowledge.

- **Drugs For Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDI)**
- **International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)**
- **International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM)**
- **TB Alliance**
- **The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases Research (TDR)**
- **Evidence for Action: An international research consortium to maximise benefits and equity of HIV treatment and care systems**
- **Addressing the Balance of Burden in HIV/AIDS (ABBA)**
- **Communicable Diseases: Vulnerability, risk and poverty (COMDIS)**
- **Realising Rights: Improving sexual and reproductive health for poor and vulnerable populations**
- **Research and capacity building in reproductive and sexual health and HIV/AIDS in developing countries**
- **TARGETS RPC: Team for applied research to generate effective tools and strategies**
- **Developing Anti-Retroviral Therapy (DART) in Africa**
- **Microbicides to Prevent HIV infections: Microbicides Development Programme (MDP)**

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New Projects

CGIAR – Change Management Programme (Change Initiative Fund CIF)

This programme will provide the leadership to keep the CGIAR transition process on track, which will include the establishment and functioning of the Consortium and the CGIAR Fund. In implementing the transitional arrangements, it will articulate the next level of detail of the reform and ensure that each proposed change adds value to a new and improved CGIAR that is more effective in delivering positive development outcomes and higher impacts on poverty and hunger.

African Insect Science for Food and Health (ICIPE)

ICIPE's mission is to help alleviate poverty, ensure food security and improve the overall health status of peoples of the tropics by developing and extending management tools and strategies for harmful and useful insects, while preserving the natural resource base through research and capacity building.

Crops for the Future ICUC (formerly known as International Centre for Underutilised Crops)

Crops for the Future is dedicated to the promotion of neglected and underutilised plant species as a contribution to humanity. It evolved from the International Centre for Underutilised Crops and the Global Facilitation Unit for Underutilized Species. It covers the whole range of underutilised species, food and non-food crops; and catalyses the development of processing and marketing facilities for underutilised crops and will concentrate on developing options for income generation.

The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)

Hosted by FAO and sponsored by FAO and IFAD, GFAR is a forum open to all interested parties in agricultural research for development. Its strategic objectives are to build consensus and strengthen advocacy for action in relation to agricultural research and innovation priorities; promote global and regional partnerships for collaborative research and innovation; boost knowledge and improve communication in relation to agricultural research and innovation; and strengthen the institutional capacities of GFAR and its stakeholders.

International Foundation for Science (IFS)

To support young developing country scientists who have the potential to become future research leaders and lead scientists in their nations. The criteria for eligibility for IFS support stipulate that the scientist must be young and at the beginning of his or her research career and from a developing country, where the research must take place.

Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security Challenge Programme

The Challenge Programme's main objectives are to overcome critical gaps in knowledge of how to enhance – and manage the tradeoffs between – food security, livelihood and environmental goals in the face of a changing climate; develop and evaluate options for adapting to a changing climate to inform agricultural development, food security policy and donor investment strategies; and assist farmers, policymakers, researchers and donors to continually monitor, assess and adjust their actions in response to a changing climate.

Water and Food Challenge Programme

The aim of this research, extension and capacity-building programme is to increase the productivity of water used for agriculture. In developing countries, water for agriculture consumes 70–90% of all water use. To meet the needs of a growing population, more food must be produced using less water. The initiative brings together research scientists, development specialists, and river basin communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Programme (SSA CP)

The SSA CP focuses on (i) delivering international public goods concerned with best practices in relation to multi-stakeholder engagement in the generation and wide-scale adoption of agricultural innovations and (ii) evaluating whether Integrated Agricultural Research for Development (IAR4D) works and is more cost/benefit effective relative to conventional approaches. After satisfactorily answering the above issues by the end of the current research phase, the SSA CP will metamorphose into a clearing house for promoting the adoption of IAR4D.

Harvest Plus Challenge Programme (HPCP)

This programme aims to improve the health of poor people by breeding staple food crops that are rich in micronutrients. HarvestPlus is biofortifying seven key staple crops that will have the greatest impact in alleviating micronutrient malnutrition, or hidden hunger, in Asia and Africa. These crops are beans, cassava, maize, pearl millet, rice, sweet potato, and wheat.

UK Collaborative on Development Sciences (UKCDS)

The UKCDS brings together the key UK funders and stakeholders who provide support for research relevant to development. Its vision is that UK research funding maximises its impact on international development outcomes. It aims to encourage and facilitate working relationships for effective research for development by improving stakeholder collaboration in development sciences, encouraging research policies and practices of UK funders to reflect good practice in development, and support the UK to be a global leader in development sciences and their application.

Urban LandMark

Urban LandMark sheds light on what can be done to remedy the problems that have made urban land markets dysfunctional, and hence land unaffordable. It does this by using the development approach known as 'making markets work for the poor' while acknowledging the importance of land rights. In South Africa, the rise in the price of urban land has become a barrier to government policies to erase the geographical divisions left by apartheid and bring the poor closer to the benefits enjoyed by wealthier communities.

Fodder Project Phase II

This project will investigate how to build innovation system capacity to increase the ability of networks of fodder and feed-related service providers to meet the needs of poor people for whom fodder makes a key contribution to livelihoods; and how to institutionalise these arrangements in key organisations so they can be scaled up from lessons learned in the national pilot sites in India and Nigeria.

New Research Documents

Religions and Development Research Programme Newsletter 7

The latest news, events and publications from the Religion and Development RPC.

Making Migration Work for Development

Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty, 2009, 48 pages

This report is a summary of six years of investigation into migration policy and practice. The economic value of migration to poor countries is already well-established, with migrant workers sending over \$300bn to developing countries, around four times global aid flows. However, the Centre's findings indicate that for migration to have its full developmental impact, the most beneficial policy change would be to reduce barriers to migration, at all levels and particularly for the poorest.

Estimating the Burden of Malaria in Pregnancy: A case study from rural Madhya Pradesh, India
N. Diamond-Smith, Neeru Singh, R.K. Das Gupta, A. Dash, K. Thimasarn, O.M.R. Campbell and D. Chandramohan, *Malaria Journal* (2009)8, 7 pages

Malaria in pregnancy (MiP) is inadequately researched in India, and the burden is probably much higher than current estimates suggest. This paper models the burden of MiP and associated foetal losses and maternal deaths in rural Madhya Pradesh, India. Although the estimates are uncertain, they suggest MiP is a significant public health problem in rural Madhya Pradesh, affecting many thousands of women, and that reducing the MiP burden should be a priority.

The Quandaries of Coding and Ranking: Evaluating poor state performance indexes

F. Gutierrez Sanin, Working Paper No.58 (Series 2), Crisis States Research Centre, 2009, 31 pages

This paper discusses and evaluates definitions and indexes of 'poor state performance' (PSP). The author suggests that most of these exhibit poor conceptual definition, huge conceptual dispersion, and confusion between causes and definitions. Moreover, they contain an intrinsic ambiguity and a lack of awareness of the problem of order. By undertaking a detailed analysis of methods of coding and ranking countries according to poor state performance, the author concludes that such indexes can only provide a useful resource for researchers if their assumptions are carefully discussed and if they can express critical aspects of the concept which they seek to codify.

Professional Assistance During Birth and Maternal Mortality in Two Indonesian Districts

C. Ronsmans, S. Scott, S. N. Qomariyah, E. Achadi, D. Braunholtz, T. Marshall, E. Pambudi, K. H. Witten and W. J. Graham, *Bulletin of the World Health Organisation* (2009) 87, 7 pages

Achieving equitable coverage of all births by health professionals is still a distant goal in Indonesia, but even among women who receive professional care, maternal mortality ratios remain surprisingly high. This may reflect the limitations of home-based care. Phased introduction of fee exemption and transport incentives to enable all women to access skilled delivery care in health centres and emergency care in hospitals may be a feasible, sustainable way to reduce Indonesia's maternal mortality ratio.

Strange Bedfellows? Sex and International Development

Realising Rights RPC Podcast, 2009, 44 minutes

This is a podcast of an event held in the UK Houses of Parliament. The event was sponsored by the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Debt, Aid and Trade, the Institute of Development Studies' Sexuality and Development Programme, and the Realising Rights Research Programme Consortium. This meeting offered an exciting opportunity to explore the ways in which poverty reduction efforts and work on sexuality and sexual rights intersect, with a view to improved policy and programming.

How Non-state Actors Lobby to Influence Budget Outcomes in Zambia

This paper examines the role non-state actors play in shaping tax and expenditures policies through formal budget processes. Analysis of these data shows that several non-state actors have effectively influenced budget decisions. Tax proposals submitted through line government departments and agencies were more likely to be adopted in the budget, and those more able to articulate and justify their own budget proposal also recorded higher success rates than those who lacked the capacity and skills to present their budget proposals convincingly.

Poverty and Growth in Remote Villages in Tanzania (2004–2008): Insights from Village Voices film research

L. da Corta and L. Price, CPRC Working Paper No.153, 2009, 61 pages

This working paper accompanies 'Village Voices', a film which covers the lives of people in five remote regions of Tanzania over five years (2004–08). The paper examines specifically why high economic growth during Tanzania's poverty reduction strategy (MKUKUTA 2005-2010) has not translated into the expected reduction in poverty (there has been a rise of 1 million people living in poverty between

2001 and 2007). The official response has been a call for broad-based growth by stepping up efforts to revolutionise agriculture through an Agriculture First (Kilimo Kwanza) strategy.

COMDIS Bulletin 1

Autumn 2009, 6 pages

News, events, workshops and new initiatives from COMDIS, the Research and Development for Effective Communicable Disease Control programme consortium.

The Role of HIV Testing, Counselling, and Treatment in Coping with HIV/AIDS in Uganda: A qualitative analysis

B. Nyanzi-Wakholi, A. Medina Lara, C. Watera, P. Munderi, C. Gilks and H Grosskurth, AIDS Care (2009) 21(7), 5 pages

HIV/AIDS has had a devastating impact at individual, household and community levels. This qualitative research investigates the role of HIV voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) and treatment in enabling HIV-positive Ugandans to cope with this disease. Based on this study's findings, ensuring the provision of quality assured and gender conscious VCT and ART delivery services will enhance positive living and enforce compliance to ART programmes.

Mapping the Likelihood of Introduction and Spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Virus H5N1 in Africa, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya and Nigeria using Multicriteria Decision Modelling

K.B. Stevens, S. Costard, R. Métras, and D.U. Pfeiffer, Working Paper No.20, 2009, 32 pages

The objective of this study was to describe the spatial variation in the likelihood of (i) introduction and (ii) spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza virus (HPAIV) subtype H5N1 on a continental scale in Africa. This report describes the methods used to produce likelihood maps illustrating the likelihood of introduction and subsequent spread of HPAIV H5N1 at both the continental and country level (Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Ghana; targeted countries of the DfID project), and highlights limitations associated with the maps.

WRENmedia report to DFID – Communicating Research: Contributing to sustainable development. Science reporting capacity building workshop, Nairobi, Kenya, September 2009 2009, 6 pages

Eight people selected from previous courses took part in this eight-day capacity-building workshop on science reporting. The theme of the workshop was livestock science. The workshop is described, and the lessons learned and feedback from the training are briefly presented.

Decisions with Endogeneous Preference Parameters

P. Dalton and S. Ghosal, 2009, 18 pages

This paper relates the normative implications of a model of decision-making with endogenous preference parameters to choice theoretic models (Bernheim and Rangel 2007, 2009; Rubinstein and Salant, 2008) in which observed choices are determined by frames or ancillary conditions.

The Nature of Migration and Its Impact on Families in Peru

C. Lees, Young Lives Student Paper, 2009, 38 pages

This paper uses Young Lives data collected on young families in Peru in 2002 and 2007. The paper aims to test the traditional theory of migration as an investment, that is that households choose to migrate in order to gain net expected benefits, and that on average they succeed in doing so. Our results for rural-to-urban migrant families support this hypothesis, however there is also a significant number of families moving in the opposite direction, out of urban areas, and this appears to be correlated with a general worsening in household wealth.

TB Alliance Newsletter – November 2009

This issue includes news of TB Alliance activities, and a roundup of key publications in tuberculosis research.

Learning Lessons on Research Uptake and Use: Donor review on research communication
B. Adolph, F. Proctor, N. van der Gaag, J. Davies, and L. Carlile, Triple Line Consulting Ltd, 2009, 65 pages

This donor review on research communication is part of a wider study contracted by DFID, which reviewed 17 DFID-supported research communication programmes in relation to their contributions to DFID's new research strategy. The objective of the donor review is to identify good practice, emerging lessons, and possible future directions in research communication, and to identify commonalities in donor priorities and strategies that could lead to better harmonisation and value addition.

Review of the Engagement of NGOs with the Humanitarian Reform Process: Synthesis report
2009, 52 pages

This report analyses the current state of global humanitarian reform efforts from an NGO perspective by synthesising a series of mapping studies carried out between November 2008 and February 2009 that looked at humanitarian reform in five different countries: Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Sudan and Zimbabwe. Lessons from other contexts are also brought in to strengthen the analysis and provide an overview of humanitarian reform.

Selection for Drought Resistance in Common Bean Also Improves Yield in Phosphorus Limited and Favorable Environments

S.E. Beebe, I.M. Rao, C. Cajiao and M. Grajales, Crop Science (2009) 48, 10 pages

An estimated 60% of common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) production worldwide is at risk of drought. A breeding program was developed at the International Center of Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) to create drought-resistant breeding lines with varietal potential in the small red, small black, cream (mulatinho) and cream-striped (carioca) grain classes.

Developing Integrated Towns: Key Findings - Urban LandMark

F. Kitchin and W. Ovens, W Wendy Ovens and Associates, 2008, 38 pages

Recent research has shown that the current land use system in South Africa has not been fundamentally reformed since apartheid. This project aimed to examine several towns, and the municipalities in which they are located, to assess the extent to which their current land-use policies and practices enable municipalities to provide the poor with access to well-located land in a sustainable manner, in an effort to integrate them effectively into the daily workings of the town.

[More documents](#)

Recent News Stories

DFID seeks feedback on the new DFID website

DFID is asking for feedback on their new website, launched earlier this year. The website has been redesigned with a more modern theme, and with Web 2.0 functionality including embedded video, feeds from R4D, and links to DFID staff bloggers. Top-level information on 'Fighting Poverty' presents a public-friendly link to DFID's work, and gives onward links to more in-depth content. An online poll has been set up, which will be available for the next couple of weeks.

Executive Director sought for the International Council on Human Rights Policy

The International Council on Human Rights Policy (ICHRP) is inviting applications for the post of Executive Director to develop the global profile of this well-respected agenda-setting think-tank that provides independent, practical and innovative inter-disciplinary research to the wider human rights community. Applications close on **18 December 2009**.

Journalists experience livestock science in action in Kenya's South Rift valley

A 'science safari' to the South Rift valley has enabled African journalists to get first-hand experience of the recent drought in Kenya and the impacts on pastoralists and their livestock. Eight radio and print journalists from East, West and Southern Africa took part in the 'safari', as part of the latest DFID-supported 'better science reporting' workshop.

New ways to help people in crisis

On 17 November, 2009, DFID announced a £3 million investment over the next five years in research to improve humanitarian practice. The permanent secretary Nemat Minouche Shafik made the announcement at a conference organised by the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP). The money will be used to find new ways of delivering aid to the most vulnerable people affected by conflict and natural disasters. Every year, nearly 300 million people are affected by conflict and natural disasters. In 2008, US\$18bn was spent on humanitarian assistance.

Satellite Remote Sensing for Disaster Management

In the latest spotlight from SciDev.Net, 'Remote Sensing for Natural Disasters', articles written by international experts explain how satellite data can be used to monitor and manage different natural disasters, reflect on lessons learnt from successful applications in the developing world, ask how developing countries can harness this technology for themselves; and provide advice to policymakers on the ground.

IPPG Forest Rights documentary 'Delayed Justice' screened at environmental film festival

In India, around 275 million rural poor people (some 27% of the total population) depend upon forests for at least part of their subsistence and cash livelihoods. Forest rights in India have been highly contentious for at least a century and a half, and this has intensified in recent years. *Delayed Justice*, a documentary produced by the Improving Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth RPC (IPPG) premiered at the environmental film festival, CMS VATAVARAN, held in New Delhi, India, 27-31 October, 2009. The 2009 festival showcased more than 350 films, including films from 18 Indian states.

New Book from IFPRI - Millions Fed: Proven Successes in Agricultural Development

A new book from IFPRI, *Millions Fed: Proven Successes in Agricultural Development*, has brought together the major successes in agricultural development that have lifted millions of people out of hunger over the past 50 years. The book was commissioned by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to determine what programmes, policies and investments in agriculture have had a proven impact on hunger and food security.

Global Forum on Migration and Development

Researchers from the DFID-funded Migration DRC attended the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Athens in early November, and blogged from the conference. The Migration DRC recently published *Making Migration Work for Development*, a summary of six years of investigation into migration policy and practice. The findings indicate that, for migration to have its full developmental impact, the most beneficial policy change would be to reduce barriers to migration, at all levels and particularly for the poorest.

International Research Initiative on Adaptation to Climate Change

The Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and its partners are seeking Letters of Intent for an international research initiative to support research and networking on adaptation to climate change in Canada and in low- and middle-income countries. The initiative will support multi-national research teams in eligible countries

New Crosscutting Disability with Poverty Research Programme

A new DFID-funded research programme seeks to provide evidence on how disability interacts with other factors influencing poverty. The Crosscutting Disability Research Programme looks specifically to mainstream disability into research on a range of different topics to ensure the social and economic inclusion of disabled people in development thinking. The programme also seeks to explore how the uptake of knowledge on disability by developing country policy makers and international organisations can be improved.

Nobel Prize decision highlights significance of institutions

This year's Nobel Prize in economics was jointly awarded to the political scientist Elinor Ostrom, of Indiana University, and the economist Oliver Williamson, of the University of California, Berkeley (12 October). The directors of the DFID-funded Improving Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth (IPPG) RPC have commented on how these awards highlight the significance of institutions and describe how the Laureates' ideas have influenced IPPG's research.

Ten Years of 'War Against Poverty': What have we learned since 2000 and what should we do 2010–2020?

The Chronic Poverty Research Centre (CPRC) will be marking 10 years of poverty research with an international conference, 'Ten years of "war against poverty": What have we learned since 2000 and what should we do 2010–2020?'. The conference will be held at the Brooks World Poverty Institute (BWPI) at the University of Manchester on 8-10 September 2010, just two weeks ahead of the meeting of the UN General Assembly which will review progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Submit abstracts by **21 January, 2010**, Register by **30 June, 2010**.

Forum encourages best use of public funding for environmental research

The Environment Research Funders Forum (ERFF) brings together the UK's major public-sector sponsors of environmental science to work in partnership to assess research needs and priorities. The Forum supports the WorldWideScience Alliance project, which has produced what is said to be the world's most important open-access scientific resource. Researchers can search over 50 national databases, containing over 357 million pages of scientific research. ERFF has contributed some 20,000 publicly funded environmental research outputs, including content from R4D.

Reforming the process of humanitarian response: involving NGOs in the debate

The United Nations has been leading a process of reforming the way that humanitarian aid is delivered, aimed at improving the efficiency and reach of humanitarian response for beneficiary populations. However, NGOs, particularly national and local ones, have been largely absent from many of the reform forums. With a growing awareness of the need to better involve NGOs - particularly national and local NGOs - in the various aspects of reform, DFID-funded research is helping to engage NGOs in the reform process.

DFID's Chris Whitty Opens Global Summit: Food Security in a Climate of Change

DFID's Chief Scientist Chris Whitty and Mr Gao Hongbin, Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, People's Republic of China provided the keynote addresses to the CABI Global Summit: 'Food security in a climate of change' that took place in London 19–21 October, 2009. Whitty spoke frankly about the challenges and opportunities for food security over the coming decades. His message was reinforced by Mr Hongbin who described the food security programme developed in China recently.

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